Pradesh only three DDRCs have been sanctioned in the districts namely Anantpur, Karimnagar and Vishakhapatnam and all of these are functional.

(c) to (e) The Government has formulated a policy for identifying the districts for setting up of the DDRCs, which is as follows:-

- Districts where currently no services are available for persons with disabilities either through Government, Semi-Government or Voluntary agencies are eligible.
- State Government is willing for implementation and sharing of responsibilities.
- The State Government provides rent free well connected building for the purpose.
- Priority is given to districts eligible on the above criteria based on the following conditions:

(i) Higher prevalence rate of disability.

(ii) Longer distance from the existing DDRC or similar service centre.

The State Governments including Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh have been requested to submit their proposals.

Scholarships and assistance of SC/ST students in Kerala

2736. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of assistance granted to the Government of Kerala for the purpose of scholarships and educational assistance to the SC/ST students during the years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04;

(b) the amount spent by the State Government for the scheme during the above years;

(c) whether the State Government lapsed any sum meant for the scheme and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount allotted during 2004-05 for the scheme alongwith the details of its utilization?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN):(a) to (d) Central assistance released to and sent by the Government of Kerala

during the years 2001-02 to 2004-05 under the schemes of Post-Matric scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Post-Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Tribes are as under:-

(Rs. in lakh)

Name of the Scheme	2001-02 CentralAssistance Released	Spent	2002-03 CentraAssistancel ReleasedSpent		2003-04 CentralAssistance ReleasedSpent		2004-05 CentralAssistance ReleasedSpent	
Post Matric scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes	938.16	1131.66	674.44	375.75	677.57	649.70	999.49**	
Post Matric scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Tribes	92.00	19.11	Nil	34.15	Nil	63.93	146.14**	

**The amount of Central assistance spent during 2004-05 by the State Government has not been received as yet.

Central Assistance under the above schemes are released on the basis of expenditure anticipated by the State Governments/UT Administrations in particular in a year. On receipt of actual expenditure figures the unspent balance, if any, is deducted from or excess expenditure incurred is paid as arrears in succeeding year's grant. Therefore, the question of lapse of funds does not rise.

Menace of beggers

†2737. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been unexpected increase in the number of beggers in the metropolitan cities particularly in Delhi in the recent years;

(b) if so, the efforts being made by Government to deal with this problem in effective manner; and

(c) the details of the efforts made by Government during the last five years to restrict and rehabilitate the beggars?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.